

CLASSIFICATION /SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The "Sea Register of the USSR" (Morskoy Registr SSSR) was first established in 1898 under the title "Bureau of the Committee of Inspectors of the Russian Transport-Insurance Society." (Byuro Komitetov Inspekhtorov Russkikh Transporto-Strakhovykh Obshchestv) In 1913 this organization was reorganized into the "Russian Register" (Russkiy Registr); in 1923 it was renamed the "Russian Register" (Rossiyskiy Registr) and in 1924 the "Register of the USSR". (Registr SSSR) That year there came into existence, in reality, two registers: "Sea Register of the USSR" (Morskoy Registr SSSR) and the "River Register." (Rechnoy Registr) In addition, in 1924, a "Technical Council" (Tekhnicheskii Sovet) was established within the Register to review technical problems connected with the development of Merchant fleet construction.

2. About 1927-28 "Rules for the Classification and Building of Seagoing Steel Ships" (Pravila Klassifikatsii i Postroyki Morskikh Stal'nykh Sudov) were compiled and published. In 1948 they were revised and reissued. These rules are basic and extend to ships of the following types, classified according to the cruising areas:

- (a) To ships for unrestricted (ocean-going) cruising
- (b) To ships for seas
- (c) To coastal ships
- (d) To harbor craft (operation in roadsteads)
- (e) To vessels for use within port areas
- (f) To ships for local communication means (ferries, etc)

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These rules also apply to sea-going steel fishing craft and industrial vessels (trawlers, mother ships, auxiliary vessels), but do not apply to other types of fishing vessels, nor to river and lake vessels. For these vessels there are the "Rules for the Classification and Construction of River and Lake Ships." (Pravila Klassifikatsii i Postroyki Rechnykh i Ozernykh Sudov)

3. Rules for the Register of the USSR were affirmed by foreign navigation companies and such classification societies as England's Lloyds, Germany's Lloyds and France's Bureau Veritas. Beginning in 1930, ships built for the USSR in foreign yards were constructed exclusively in accordance with the rules of the "Register of the USSR," were supervised according to it, and were of the highest class in the Register.
4. In 1939 the publishing house "Morskoy Transport" (Morskoy Transport) issued for "Official Use" (Sluzhebnoye Pol'sovaniye) a reference manual under the title "List of Vessels of the Maritime Fleet of the Union of the USSR." (Spisok Sudov Morskogo Torgovogo Flota Soyuz SSR) This book listed all self-propelled and non-self-propelled sea-going vessels of the USSR for all shipping companies. The list included: name of the ships, time and place of construction, and technical data for the ships. This reference volume was not placed on sale, but was distributed to organizations of the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet (MMF) at departmental order. The term "for official use" meant that, although the reference book was not secret, it was not to be widely published. Up to 1951 this reference book was not republished and the question of its resumption did not arise. Each organization of the MMF composed a list of all floating stock for that organization. A composite list of the floating stock of all organizations of the Ministry is found in the Sector of Accounting of the Planning - Economic Department of the MMF and has been classified "secret". In addition, this list is in the possession of those branches of the Ministry which, because of the type of work they do, need to use it. The Ministry of the River Fleet (MRF) has no special published list of ships which are attached to it. Within the system of the MMF and also within the MRF there is a legally sanctioned means for the classification of ships. In particular, ships of the maritime fleet are classified according to the following headings (by types):
 - (a) By types of ships
 - (b) By cruising area
 - (c) By material used in construction of the hull
 - (d) By type of engines (dvigateli)
 - (e) By type of motive power (dvizhitel')
 - (f) By type of fuel used
 - (g) By construction
5. The classification of merchant ships which had been legalized by the "Rules for the Technical Exploitation of Ships of the Merchant Fleet," (Pravilami Tekhnicheskoy Eksploatatsii Sudov Morskogo Flota) had been drawn up with the collaboration of the "Sea Register" and approved by the MMF by a special decree at the end of 1947. The classification of ships appeared in the first volume of the "Rules". In addition, a classification of merchant ships appeared in the book "Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-going Steel Ships," published in the last edition of the "Sea Register of the USSR" and brought out by "Morskoy Transport" in 1948. Actually these classifications are not different in any way. Accurate classification of merchant ships, introduced in the first volume of "Rules for the Technical Exploitation of Ships of the Merchant Fleet", were borrowed in entirety from "Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-going Steel Vessels." This was exactly the situation in the MRF. In general there was no broad circulation of lists of all river ships which came under the MRF. Lists of ships were prepared within the Ministry for internal departmental use.

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6. The following books were prepared by the Sea Register of the USSR and published by the "Morskoy Transport" publishing house:
- (a) "Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-going Steel Vessels", (Pravila Klassifikatsii i Postroyki Morskikh Stal'nykh Sudov) published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1948. This book set forth rules for the building of hulls of various types of ships (all types of assemblies, sheathing, superstructures), machine-boiler installations, prime movers.
 - (b) "Rules for the Classification and Construction of Sea-going Wooden and Reinforced-Concrete Vessels", (Pravila Klassifikatsii i Postroyki Morskikh Derevyannykh i Zhelezobetonnykh Sudov) published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1948. This book includes rules for the building of hulls of various types of wooden and reinforced concrete vessels (assemblies, sheathing, superstructures). The book was insufficiently exploited and it was proposed that the rules be returned for further reworking.
 - (c) "Rules for the Equipping and Supplying of Merchant Ships with Signalling Equipment and Instructions for the Inspection and Acceptance of Signalling Equipment and Signalling Apparatus for Merchant Ships". (Pravila Oborudovaniya i Snabzheniya Signal'nyimi Sredstvami Morskikh Sudov i Instrukttsiya po Osvidetel'stvovaniyu i Priyemke Signal'nogo Oborudovaniya i Signal'nykh Sredstv Morskikh Sudov). Published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1951, the rules consist of three parts: form and navigational requirements for signalling apparatus; rules for the installation of signalling equipment; technical demands placed on signalling equipment and signalling apparatus. Instructions consist of two divisions: inspection and acceptance tests in the preparing plant and inspection and acceptance tests on the ship.
 - (d) "Rules for the Inspection and Acceptance of Hoisting Apparatus on Merchant Ships" (Pravila Osvidetel'stvovaniya i Priyemki Gruzopod'yemnykh Spetsial'nykh na Morskikh Sudakh). Published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1950, the rules cover shipboard hoisting apparatus, their rated capacities and procedures for their installation on ships. In addition, the rules provided for inspection and acceptance at the factory and on board ship.
 - (e) "Rules for the Inspection of Electrical Equipment on Merchant Ships" (Pravila Osvidetel'stvovaniya Elektrooborudovaniya na Morskikh Sudakh), published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1948. The rules provide for the form and application of electrical equipment on ships, the demands placed upon such equipment, establish procedures for accepting electrical equipment from the plant and for inspecting and accepting it on the ships.
 - (f) "Rules for the Supplying of Merchant Ships with Anchor Equipment and Instructions for the Inspection and Acceptance of Anchors and Anchor Chain for Merchant Ships" (Pravila Snabzheniya Morskikh Sudov Yakornym Oborudovaniem i Instrukttsiya na Osvidetel'stvovaniyu i Priyemke Yakornoy i Yakornyykh Morskikh Sudov), published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1948. The rules define anchor equipment and its use on merchant ships and set out the procedure for inspection and acceptance of anchor chain and anchors at the plant and on board ship.
 - (g) "Rules for the Equipment of Merchant Ships with Steering and Mooring Equipment and Apparatus and Instructions for the Acceptance and Inspection of Steering and Mooring Equipment and Apparatus" (Pravila Oborudovaniya Morskikh Sudov Rulevymi i Shvartovymi Ustroystvami i Oborudovaniem i Instrukttsiya po priyemke i Osvidetel'stvovaniyu Rulevykh i Shvartovykh Ustroystv i Oborudovaniya). Published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1948, the rules define steering and mooring apparatus and equipment and establish procedures for its use on merchant ships, establish procedures for the acceptance and inspection of it at the plant and on board ship, and set forth methods of installation on ships.

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- (h) "Rules and Instructions Concerning the Procedure for Preparation of Measures and of the Certificate of Identity for Merchant Ships" (Pravila i Instruktsiya o Poryadke Proizvodstva Obmera i Udostovereniya Tezhdestvennosti Morskikh Sudov), published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1939. The rules covered the technical data of a ship (displacement, carrying capacity, load capacity, deadweight, gross and net capacity) and the procedures for measuring and defining the measurements of ships and the issuing of measurement certificates.
- (i) "Plan of Provisional Norms for the Stability of Ships" (Proyekt Vremennykh Norm Ustoychivosti Sudov), published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1945. "Plan for the Stability of Ships" (Proyekt Ustoychivosti Sudov) was first developed in 1939, but the last edition of it came out in 1945. The plan included formulae defining the stability of various ships under various conditions and norms of stability. Up to 1951 this plan was continually under discussion in the MMF, but a more exact definition and a revision of the plan was not made.
- (j) "Instructions for the Establishment of Unsinkability of Merchant Ships" (Instruktsiya po Ustanovleniyu Nepotoplyayemosti Morskikh Sudov), published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1948. These instructions regulate conditions which will insure unsinkability as well as plans for calculating unsinkability of merchant ships.
- (k) "Rules for Boiler Inspection" (Pravila Kotlonadzora). Published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1939, these rules were a revision of rules which were first developed and published in 1933. They established procedures for periodic inspections of marine steam boilers in constant use and also procedures for the inspection and acceptance of new marine steam boilers.
- (l) "Rules for the Use of Gas and Electric Arc Welding in Construction and Repair of Marine Steam Boilers" (Pravila Primeneniya Gazovoy i Elektrodugovoy Svarki pri Remonte i Postroyke Sudovykh Parovykh Kotlov). Published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1939, these rules were first developed and published in 1929 and provide for the requirements of the "Sea Register" in connection with the quality of welded joints, welding methods, and also the electrode requirements.
- (m) "Rules for the Inspection and Acceptance of Air Containers and Flasks under Pressure" (Pravila Osvidetel'stvovaniya i Priyemki Vozdukhokhranilishch i Sosudov, Nakhodyashchikhsya pod davleniyem). Published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1948, the rules set forth the numbers and types of air containers and flasks under pressure, and compressors; procedure for their installation, operation, acceptance and periodic inspection at the factory and on board ship.
- (n) "Regulations for the Repair of Ships of the Maritime Fleet" (Polozheniye o Remonte Sudov Morskogo Flota). Published by "Morskoy Transport" in 1949, this regulation was developed with the direct participation and under the leadership of the "Sea Register" and put in effect by a decree of the Minister of the MMF in January 1950. It provides: preparation for ship-repair in the shipping companies, in the direct-orates of Basin Routes (Bacseinovi Upravleniyax Putoi - BUP), and in the ports; the relations between shipping companies and ship-repair enterprises; supervision over repair, and participation of the Sea Register and other organizations in repair work, the organization of repair using the ships' own facilities, the organization of work in the yards at the docks; standard forms of requirements, plans of delivery, etc.

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7. Besides the books listed, which were published specially by the Sea Register of the USSR, during 1947 under the supervision of and by agreement with the Register, "Rules for the Technical Exploitation of Ships of the Merchant Fleet" (Pravila Tekhnicheskoy Eksploatatsii Sudov Morskogo Flota) were developed and put in effect by a decree of the MMF in January of 1948. The rules were published by the publishing house of "Morskoy Transport" in 1948. These rules require that the workers of the Merchant Fleet know the rules thoroughly and fulfill them completely. Employees of the Merchant Fleet are annually examined on their knowledge of the rules in those sectors which directly concern the activity of a given employee. The rules consist of a general section which bears the title "Rules for the Technical Exploitation of Vessels of the Merchant Fleet," and consists of about 240 pages (about 400 paragraphs) and every worker of the Merchant Fleet must know them regardless of his or her position.
8. In addition to the general section there are also the following special editions which concern definite fields and which people working in those fields must know and carry out.
- (a) Rules for the care and maintenance of marine steam boilers
 - (b) Rules for the care and maintenance of shipboard steam machinery and mechanisms.
 - (c) Rules for the care and maintenance of shipboard internal combustion engines.
 - (d) Rules for the care and maintenance of shipboard electrical equipment.
 - (e) Rules for the care and maintenance of shipboard radio equipment.
 - (f) Rules for the supply, care and maintenance of navigational-quartermaster equipment and stores.
 - (g) Rules for the care and maintenance of dredging equipment.
 - (h) Rules for the care and maintenance of shipboard cold storage installations.

All these rules were published by the "Morskoy Transport" publishing house in 1948 and are permanent. Each book is from 100 to 200 pages in length, of small format.

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